Bob Hardy 1738 Goodwin Street Seaside CA 93955

Aug 30th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

Support competitive Internet access, not monopoly special interests (AT&T and Verizon) and their lobbyists (USTelecom).

Petitioning to "forbear" is an attempt to take on an air of prudence and discretion, but in fact it is an attempt to consolidate their already established monopoly dominance, to facilitate the fixing of network services to the public, in spite of the fact that the law (Telecommunications Act of 1996) was created specifically to prevent this kind of communications "protection racket".

I've been a customer of the same small ISP for roughly 20 years. This is one of the many small companies that would be forced to pay more for services that they already use, and which are already profiting the monopolies. Their greed simply dictates that they try to squeeze the small companies and the public for more money and no more service.

To kill competitive choices at competitive prices, and make the fattest fat cats even fatter while benefiting no one else is expressly what the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was intended to disallow.

Deny their monopoly money-grabbing petition. It is a conspicuous attempt to force prices up against the values established in the open market. There is no reason, no benefit to the public, but in fact fiscal harm, in circumventing standing law, which now protects the public, the small companies, and benign competition in the telecommunications marketplace.

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